

## **MINUTES**

### **UTAH SOCIAL WORK BOARD MEETING**

**May 17, 2007**

**Room 475 – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – 9:00 A.M.  
Heber Wells Building  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**CONVENED:** 9:08 A.M.

**ADJOURNED:** 2:33 P.M.

**Bureau Manager:**  
**Board Secretary:**

Noel Taxin  
Karen McCall

**Board Members Present:**

Tammer M. Attallah  
Patsy J. Smith  
Jean V. McAfee  
Steven Fisher, Chairperson  
Mark de St. Aubin

**Board Members Absent:**

Dennis R. Frandsen  
Joyce Stowe-St. Clair

**Guests:**

#### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

##### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

##### **MINUTES:**

Reading and approving the minutes from the April 12, 2007 meeting was deferred to the June 7, 2007 Board meeting.

##### **APPOINTMENTS:**

##### **10:00 to 10:45 A.M.**

Trudy Moore, Review University of Utah  
Courses for the Degree in any Field for SSW  
Licensure

Ms. Moore met and reviewed the University of Utah  
syllabus that has been prepared to meet the  
requirements of the Practice Methods Course for those  
individuals with a degree in any field for the Social  
Service Worker license.

Ms. Moore explained that the program will be divided  
into 3 parts as follows:

1. Practice 1, which will be the Micro working with individuals.
2. Practice 2, which will be the Messo working with groups.
3. Practice 3, which will be the Macro working with the community.

Ms Moore stated that she has taught Practice 1 and 3 before but has not taught Practice 2. She stated that the course is geared toward populations that are at risk, specifically toward women, sexual assault, financial difficulties and family dynamics. She stated that there will be assignments, case studies and vignettes that will go over ethical dilemmas that were covered in the course. Ms. Moore stated that the students must complete all sections to pass and receive the certificate of completion. She stated that the course will be 13 weeks.

**Ms. Taxin asked why the course is geared more to women and does not include men as they have similar issues as women have. She stated that it appears to be a great class but would be better rounded if the men were also included.**

Ms. Moore responded that the book she is following is focused on women. She stated that week 12 deals with populations at risk.

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that the mentally ill, elderly and children are also populations at risk**

**Mr. Attallah stated that the different cultural communities are also populations at risk.**

Ms. Moore stated that ethnicity will not be covered in the populations at risk.

**Mr. Attallah stated that he knows it is probably not covered in the book but it would be nice to include so that the scope of practice is covered.**

**Mr. Fisher stated that the whole endeavor appears to be massive for one class. He asked how Ms. Moore will cover all the issues that are necessary as those with a degree in any field have not had their**

**focus on social work. Mr. Fisher stated that giving too much information could be overwhelming for people.**

Ms. Moore responded that it is a large endeavor but she is confident that she will be able to cover everything needed in the one course.

**Ms. Taxin stated that the outline appears to be well rounded. She voiced concern regarding offering the course during the summer semester as it is usually a shorter period. She stated that summer students would need to have the same program as all other semester students. Ms. Taxin stated that the Board would need Ms. Moore's assurance that all students will cover the same curriculum. Ms. Taxin suggested the final exam be a comprehensive examination based on practice to be sure the students could practice as Social Service Workers. She reminded Ms. Moore that the SSW does not do any clinical work so would not need any clinical questions on the examination.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that the University of Phoenix has put together a good program to meet the requirements. She stated that Ms. Moore's program identifies things the student needs to know. She recommended Ms. Moore contact Dr. Don Beck at the University of Phoenix regarding coordinating both programs in order for them both to meet the requirements especially since the U of U expanded upon the education.**

**Mr. Attallah commented that a good SSW requires the knowledge and the 2000 hours of practice under supervision of a licensed CSW or LCSW. He stated that if the syllabus is covered and 2000 hours of practice completed, the individual should be able to practice efficiently.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin requested the class include the limitations of the role of the Bachelor degree.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that currently it is common for many SSW's to practice outside the scope of their practice.**

**Mr. Attallah recommended Ms. Moore include a section on boundaries.**

**Ms. Taxin asked if the course will cover what community resources are available. She stated that she has met with SSW professionals that have no idea what the community resources are.**

Ms. Moore responded that she could include a piece in the roles area.

**Mr. Attallah asked if the referring out process could also be included.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that the referring out is a brokering process to link people up with the right resources.**

**Mr. Fisher asked if there is an attendance requirement.**

Ms. Moore responded that there is an attendance requirement. She stated that she gives points for attending each class.

**Mr. Fisher stated that he is of the understanding that classes have been offered in the past and the accreditation committee has come in and said the accreditation will be cancelled for offering additional courses to an accredited program.**

Ms. Moore responded that the courses are offered under a different area and will not affect the CSWE accreditation.

**Mr. Fisher stated that the course should be taught by qualified people as the Board and Division are trying to rectify the SSW's practicing outside their scope.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that the Division and Board will trust that when students complete the course and submit their application and certificate for licensing that they will be safe to be out working in the public.**

**Ms. Smith suggested the course not be offered during the summer session as there is so much information for the students to complete in a shorter period of time.**

**Mr. Attallah asked what the difference is between the regular semesters and the summer session.**

Ms. Moore responded that the summer is about 9 weeks vs. the other semesters being 13 weeks.

**Ms. Taxin stated that people need the course available as they are waiting for employment. She requested that summer students not be over-loaded with long classes to compensate for the short summer semester. Ms. Taxin stated it is important that the students learn and absorb the information.**

**Ms. Taxin asked if Ms. Moore will be the only instructor.**

Ms. Moore responded that she will be the only instructor at this time. She stated that if the numbers require additional instructors then Farrina Coulam, the program director, will address the issue. She stated that Ms. Coulam is concerned that there will not be enough numbers to justify the course.

**Ms. Taxin stated that there are 2 people today who do not meet the SSW education requirements and will have to complete either the University of Phoenix courses or the U of U course if the U of U offers the course in the fall.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that the University of Phoenix requires taking 3 courses to meet the requirement. He stated that it would not be an incentive for him if he had to wait a year to take the U of U course.**

**Ms. Taxin asked Ms. Moore to consider today's comments. She stated that if Ms. Moore would give her a phone number she would give out the University of Phoenix number and the U of U number to people requiring the practice methods**

**course. She stated that Don Beck at the University of Phoenix is also willing to sit down with people to review their transcripts and tell them the courses they will need to meet the licensing requirements.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that Ms. Taxin will need a name and phone number to give out to people.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that she would like the name and phone number of someone so she can refer people and be sure they are getting a direct contact of someone who will work with them.**

**Mr. Fisher asked if the U of U has any plans to offer the class through any satellite areas as rural Utah is in need of assistance.**

Ms. Moore responded that the satellite class is a good idea but she is not sure if there are any plans for a satellite class at this point.

**Ms. Taxin stated that if it could be offered in St. George it would be a great help to potential licensees. She stated that there are people in the rural areas that would probably support a class in St. George.**

**Ms. McCall asked if the students will be submitting a transcript or a certificate of completion.**

Ms. Moore responded that students will have an official transcript.

**Mr. de St. Aubin made a motion to approve the University of Utah proposal for the Practice Methods course with the amendments that were considered and accepted today regarding the content of the class.**

**Mr. Attallah seconded the motion.**

**During discussion, Mr. de St. Aubin stated that there is no guarantee that the University of Utah will make the changes to the content of the class that the Board has recommended.**

**Ms. Taxin responded that the content of the course is good without any changes. Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Beck at the University of Phoenix strives for quality. She stated that he might want to review the U of U course to update his program.**

**Mr. Fisher asked what prompted the U of U to contact the Board.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin responded that he recommended they plan a class and present it to the Board.**

**Mr. Fisher called for a vote on the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

**10:45 A.M.**

Gregg Lott, Probationary Interview

Mr. Lott met for his probationary interview.

Mr. Fisher conducted the interview.

**Mr. Fisher stated that all reports and letters have been received and reviewed. He stated that Mr. Lott's updated business plan for supervision of interns at the Oxbow facility and his request for termination of probation have been received and reviewed. Mr. Fisher asked if any Board members had any questions or comments.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin commented that the supervision policy has good content included. He stated that Mr. Lott has used supervisee and intern interchangeably and asked if that was an over-site and to explain what the intern status is. Mr. de St. Aubin stated that the content appears to be more geared to the person who has completed the education, taken the test and has their license. He stated that if Mr. Lott intends to use student interns he may want to adjust the plan.**

Mr. Lott stated that the intern would be the student intern. He stated that it appears having interns employed at Oxbow will not be an issue as there are LCSW's who want to work at Oxbow.

**Mr. de St. Aubin suggested that Mr. Lott review**

**the NASW Code of Ethics and include education on boundary issues.**

Mr. Lott responded that the information is referring more to supervision of interns.

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that if student interns were placed at the Oxbow facility then Mr. Lott would need to comply with the BYU or U of U contracts. He suggested Mr. Lott include a statement regarding student interns with contracts through BYU or U of U or the school who contacts him to place a student intern.**

**Mr. Fisher stated that upon reading the business plan he was thinking that if he were a student intern he would come away from the program very equipped to work with clients.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that Mr. Lott should remember that whoever supervises should understand that the student may need more supervision and different supervision than a person who has graduated and is a licensed CSW.**

Mr. Lott explained that the youth have therapy 3 times a week in groups and 2 times a week individually. He stated that the BYU video therapy helped him the most and the facility has cameras everywhere. Mr. Lott explained that the supervision will be weekly but the therapy will be more frequent.

**Ms. Taxin stated that Mr. Lott submitted a practice plan when he was first put on probation but she requested this update to his plan for the Oxbow facility. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. Lott for taking the time to write a practice plan for Oxbow and for submitting it.**

Mr. Lott commented that this private program is a different type of program. He stated that parents want to know what is happening with their funds and with their children.

**Mr. Fisher expressed appreciation that Mr. Lott has completed the assignment.**



**Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Lott to express in his own words his request for termination.**

Mr. Lott stated that he is hoping the probation will be terminated and that he will receive his LCSW license back. He stated that this has been a learning experience that has helped him in his views and skills and made him more conscious of what supervision needs to be. He expressed appreciation to the Board for their help through the process.

**Mr. Attallah made a motion to terminate Mr. Lott's probation.**

**Ms. Smith seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

**Mr. Fisher explained that until Mr. Lott receives the new license he should continue as he has been.**

**Ms. Taxin explained the process and stated that it takes about 2 weeks to complete all the paperwork. She congratulated Mr. Lott for completing the probation successfully.**

**11:00 A.M.**

Rhonda Kistler, Review Hours from Colorado for LCSW Requirements

Ms. Kistler and her husband, Romeo S. Kistler, Professional Counselor, met with the Board for the review of her hours from Colorado for LCSW requirements.

Board members and Division staff were introduced.

**Mr. Fisher asked Ms. Kistler to explain to the Board her understanding of the hours acquired in Colorado.**

Ms. Kistler stated that she does not currently have employment in Utah as a mental health therapist. She stated that there is no requirement in Colorado for the LCSW to be licensed 2 years prior to beginning supervision. She stated that her supervisor had worked for over 20 years without the LCSW license as it was not needed in her employment. Ms. Kistler

stated that her supervisor's job changed which required her to obtain the LCSW.

**Ms. Taxin asked if Ms. Kistler worked at the same agency as the supervisor and if she paid for the supervision.**

Ms. Kistler responded that she did work with the same agency as the supervisor but when she changed employment the new agency contracted and paid the supervisor to continue her supervision.

Ms. Kistler stated that she provided mental health assessments to determine what type of services the clients were in need of. She stated she worked with the court system and child protective services. Ms. Kistler stated that she was not the therapist but a lot of therapeutic techniques are used to make the assessment. She stated that she worked to get children returned to their homes or to get them places where it would be best for them.

**Mr. Attallah commented that Ms. Kistler mentioned her supervisor was not licensed as an LCSW but was a licensed social worker for about 20 years. He asked Ms. Kistler to explain.**

Ms. Kistler responded that Colorado has the MSW and her supervisor was an MSW as her position did not require her to be licensed as an LCSW. She explained that the supervisor was a case worker supervisor with the resource team. Ms. Kistler stated that they conducted functional family therapy, which is one person going into the home and conducting family therapy in the home on a once a week schedule or the family could call and request someone to come immediately to the home to help, they also conducted case work and foster care. Ms. Kistler stated that the functional family therapy could be conducted by a Bachelor level social worker or by a Master's level social worker.

**Mr. de St. Aubin clarified that the supervisor could supervise the functions that were performed.**

Ms. Kistler responded that Mr. de St. Aubin was

correct.

**Mr. Fisher asked what the LCSW can do that the MSW cannot do in Colorado.**

Ms. Kistler responded that the LCSW in Colorado is the one who can do mental health therapy in private practice. She stated that the MSW must be under supervision to do mental health therapy.

Ms. Kistler stated that her supervisor had her LCSW license about a month prior to starting supervision with Ms. Kistler.

**Ms. Taxin clarified that Ms. Kistler is requesting the Board to consider some of the hours she obtained in Colorado to count toward the required 4000 hours of supervised experience. She stated that Ms. Kistler is requesting credit for 3100 hours. She explained that the Board could accept all the hours, some of the hours or none of the hours.**

**Ms. Taxin explained Ms. Kistler's request is not a straight forward Law bound request. She stated that it is a question that the Board would need to discuss to decide if any of the Colorado hours could be accepted as Colorado does not require the LCSW license.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that the requirements of Colorado are not equivalent to the requirements of Utah. She stated that Utah requirements are stricter. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Kistler was invited to meet for the discussion so the Board could determine if there is a justification to accept the hours.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin asked if Ms. Kistler was providing functional family therapy.**

Ms. Kistler responded that at times she did. She stated that there were also times that she would go with the functional family therapist and work in conjunction with the functional family therapist. Ms. Kistler stated that she understands that she has not yet met Utah requirement as she does not have all the direct therapy hours.

**Mr. Attallah stated that for the functional family therapist to meet Utah's requirements they would have to have the Master's degree and be a CSW doing clinical practice under supervision.**

Ms. Kistler responded that Utah requires 4000 hours of supervised experience with 1000 hours of direct therapy and 100 hours of face to face supervision with the supervisor. She stated that the other 3000 hours could be indirect duties and those are the hours she is requesting the Utah Board to accept and count toward the LCSW license.

**Mr. de St. Aubin explained that the Board is trying to determine if the qualifications of the supervisor at the time she supervised Ms. Kistler has bearing on the quality of supervision Ms. Kistler received.**

Mr. Kistler commented that the supervisor, Donna, was supervised by a supervisor whose experience was extensive. He stated that Ms. Kistler was requested to submit documentation of that experience for the Board to review.

Ms. Kistler corrected Mr. Kistler and stated that she included documentation of Donna's supervisor for the Board to know that Donna, her own supervisor, was qualified.

**Mr. Fisher stated that he is questioning the mental health therapy hours.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Kistler will do the 1000 hours of mental health therapy which will include the 100 hours of face to face supervision as a Utah licensed CSW. She stated that the Board needs to be sure the public is safe. She stated it will be important for the supervisor to review the Laws and Rules and ethics with Ms. Kistler.**

**Mr. Fisher stated that it is difficult to complete only 1000 hours of mental health therapy without doing any of the other 3000 hours.**

**Ms. McAfee commented that Ms. Kistler is not**

**currently working as a mental health therapist.**

**Following additional discussion, Mr. de St. Aubin made a motion to accept the 3000 hours completed in Colorado toward the Utah requirement of 4000 hours based on Ms. Kistler conducting clinical assessments and other clinical duties. His motion included that Ms. Kistler must complete 1000 hours of mental health therapy under appropriate supervision of which 100 hours must be face to face with the supervisor with the hours starting when Ms. Kistler obtains employment as a mental health therapist in Utah and must not be completed in less than one year.**

**Mr. Attallah seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

**Ms. Taxin explained that the Board has individualized Ms. Kistler's supervision hours. She stated that the Division and the Board try to accommodate when it is possible. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Kistler referred to another licensee whose hours were accepted but would not give the name of the person. She again stated that Ms. Kistler's situation is individualized and not all circumstances are the same. She stated that she and the Board value Ms. Kistler's time in Colorado and that this is an exception to the traditional requirements based on her circumstances.**

**11:20 A.M.**

Nicole Hill, Review Education for SSW  
Licensure

Ms. Hill did not appear for her appointment to review her application for Social Service Worker licensing.

**Ms. McCall called Ms. Hill and left a message regarding her appointment and notifying her that she could still meet if she could arrive within the next hour to an hour and a half.**

**Ms. Rudy, staff member, notified the Board that Ms. Hill received the message and will be arriving as soon as possible.**

Upon Ms. Hill's arrival, Board members and Division

staff were introduced.

Mr. Fisher conducted the interview and review of Ms. Hill's transcripts.

**The Board noted that Ms. Hill's education is a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland University College.**

**Mr. Fisher stated that Ms. Hill admitted in one of her e-mails that she does not have the CSWE accredited education or the 2000 hours of supervised social work experience and asked if she would be eligible to apply for the Social Service Worker (SSW) license. Mr. Fisher responded that Ms. Hill is not eligible to apply for the SSW license. He explained that Ms. Hill does not have the CSWE accredited Social Work education and falls in the category of a degree in any field. He stated that she does not have the required 2000 hours of supervised social work experience or the additional education requirement of a minimum of a 3 hour credit hours of course work in the following:**

- 1. full-life human growth behavior,**
- 2. abnormal psychology,**
- 3. social work values and ethics,**
- 4. social welfare or**
- 5. social welfare policy**

**He stated that she is also deficient in an approved social work practice methods course.**

**Mr. Fisher explained that the Board approved a practice methods course that will be offered through the University of Utah and it is also available through the University of Phoenix, which is 3 courses to cover the material.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Hill may complete the required one 3 hour course through any college or university and may complete the practice methods course through any college or university that offers courses that will meet the requirement. She stated that Ms. Hill will have to do the research to locate the courses.**

Ms. Hill explained that the person she talked with at

the Division gave her different information and she is now confused. She asked for the information to be explained again.

**Ms. Taxin responded that a Criminal Justice degree is not one of the accepted degrees in social work or a family science. She stated that there are some transcripts that document the Criminal Justice degree that do document one of the 5 listed additional courses but not the practice methods course and her transcripts document only criminal justice courses.**

**Mr. Fisher asked if Ms. Hill understands or has any questions.**

Ms. Hill responded that she does understand that she will need the 2000 hours of supervised social work experience, will need to complete one of the 5 listed courses and complete a practice methods course or courses before she meets the SSW licensure requirements. Ms. Hill stated that she did take and pass the ASWB Basic examination.

**Ms. Taxin explained that Ms. Hill's application will have to be denied and when she reapplies she will have to indicate on the Qualifying Questionnaire that she has had an application denied. Ms. Taxin recommended Ms. Hill contact Don Beck at the University of Phoenix regarding the deficient courses as the University of Utah program is not yet available. She stated that Ms. Hill may work to obtain the 2000 hours and recommended that she be sure her supervisor is a licensed CSW or LCSW.**

**Ms. Smith made a motion to deny Ms. Hill's application based on the education being the category of a Bachelor degree in any field and being deficient in the required 2000 hours of supervised social work experience, one of the following courses:**

- 1. full-life human growth behavior,**
- 2. abnormal psychology,**
- 3. social work values and ethics,**
- 4. social welfare or**
- 5. social welfare policy**

**and an approved social work practice methods course.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

**Ms. Smith left the meeting due to a conflict of interest with the next appointment.**

**11:40 A.M.**

Robert Matotek, Probationary Interview

Mr. Matotek met for his probationary interview.

Ms. McAfee conducted the interview.

Ms. McAfee stated that all Mr. Matotek's reports have been received and indicate he is doing well in his work and supervision.

**Ms. Taxin read Jeanette Wood's letter.**

**Ms. McAfee asked if Mr. Matotek would like to add anything.**

Mr. Matotek responded that he has found that no one is immune from situations like he found himself in and everyone needs to continue with an ongoing learning process. He stated that he has learned from his probation.

**Ms. McAfee stated that the Board is of the understanding that Mr. Matotek would like to request early termination of his probation. She asked him to explain to the Board.**

Mr. Matotek read his letter requesting termination of probation. He stated that the probation has been a good experience and he is using some of his experiences in a class.

**Mr. Attallah made a motion to terminate Mr. Matotek's probation early based on his completing all requirements except the time and his continued compliance with the probation.**

**Ms. McAfee seconded the motion.**



**The Board vote was unanimous.**

**Ms. Taxin explained the process of terminating probation and informed Mr. Matotek that it will take about 2 weeks to complete the process. She stated that Mr. Matotek has always had a good attitude about his probation and completed all his requirements quickly. Ms. Taxin stated that he is always welcome to meet with the Board for anything he may need to discuss.**

Ms. Smith returned to the meeting.

**12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

Lunch Break

**Ms. McAfee left the meeting to attend to other commitments.**

**APPLICATIONS:**

Lindsay K. Bos, Review SSW Application

Ms. Taxin explained that Lindsay K. Bos' application is another application that the Division staff determined is in the category of a Bachelor degree in any field and will need the addition courses including the practice methods course and 2000 hours of social work experience to be licensed as a Social Worker. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Bos degree is a Bachelor of Science in Communication from Southern Utah University which does not fit into a family science or the specific degree categories. She stated that her staff went through the transcripts and highlighted Abnormal Psychology and other courses that would relate. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Bos was requested to submit syllabi, which she did and they are attached to the application for the Board to review. Ms. Taxin explained that Ms. Bos has completed the 2000 hours of social work experience under the supervision of Penny Prodaniuk, LCSW, at DCFS. Ms. Taxin stated that the supervisor works with DCFS but did not work at the same facility as Ms. Bos. She stated that Ms. Bos was one month short of the 1 year requirement but should have that by this time. Ms. Taxin stated that the Board needs to review the transcripts to verify Ms. Bos has met the requirement of the Practice Methods Course.

**Mr. Attallah commented that it appears that the Division is receiving several applications for SSW with a Bachelor degree in any field.**

Ms. Taxin responded that he is correct. She stated that people do not want to take the additional courses and apply hoping their degree will be in the family sciences area.

Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Bos has completed her 2000 hours but will continue working at DCFS. She stated that there are several people who have worked for 20 to 30 years without the SSW license as they do not want to go back to school to complete the additional course work.

**Mr. Fisher asked if they can continue working after the required hours are complete.**

Ms. Taxin responded that they should be working to complete the required 2000 hours only.

**Mr. Fisher asked if the Board can require a specific amount of time for Ms. Bos to complete the practice methods course.**

Ms. Taxin responded that the Law does not allow for the Board to require a time limit. She stated that the Board may recommend the application be denied and Ms. Bos can reapply after she has completed the practice methods course.

**Mr. Attallah commented that he wished there was a grandfather program for these people to get their license without taking additional courses.**

Ms. Taxin responded that with a grandfather program there are people who step forward after it is closed and say they did not know about the program or they started the program and then were unable to complete it in the allotted time, etc. She stated that a grandfather clause is not an option at this time.

**Mr. Attallah clarified that Ms. Taxin and her staff are frustrated due to Ms. Bos and others**

**documenting a Bachelor's degree, passing the ASWB Bachelor examination, completing the 2000 hours of social work experience but being deficient in the requirement of the extra courses.**

Ms. Taxin confirmed Mr. Attallah's comment. She stated that she is not sure the additional courses help a person be a better SSW practitioner but that the Law requires it.

**Upon completing the review of the transcripts Mr. Attallah made the motion to deny the application for SSW based on Ms. Bos being deficient in the required practice methods course.**

**Ms. Smith seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### Title Use

Ms. Taxin stated that the issue of the use of the Social Worker title has been resolved but she wanted the Board to hear the question she received and to know how the issue was resolved.

Ms. Taxin read the question regarding may anyone doing social work duties call themselves a Social Worker or must it be only someone who holds some type of Social Work license.

She explained that only a licensed SSW, CSW or LCSW may call themselves a Social Worker and the SSW cannot conduct mental health therapy.

**Mr. de St. Aubin asked if a person can call themselves a Social Worker if they are hired in a position that does not require a license.**

Ms. Taxin responded that unless the person has the license they cannot call themselves a Social Worker.

Ms. Taxin stated that the NASW Association could clarify the use of the title in the Law as the Law is outdated and does not read clearly.

**The Board noted the information.**

Education Criteria for Social Service Worker  
Licensing

This item has been clarified in the review of Ms. Hill's and Ms. Bos' applications.

AETNA Work Experience Counting Toward  
the Mental Health Therapy Training Hours

Ms. Taxin explained that she has received several phone calls regarding licensees who are employed at AETNA and want to count their experience toward the required 4000 hours of mental health therapy experience. Ms. Taxin stated that she has received conflicting information regarding whether AETNA employees are conducting mental health therapy or not. Ms. Taxin stated that she spoke with Malia Coombs, a supervisor, and discussed the mental health therapy issue with her. She asked Ms. Coombs if the position of care manager or care planner requires the employee to be licensed. She stated that Ms. Coombs responded that a care planner position does not require licensure. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Coombs informed her that AETNA chooses to hire those people with the mental health background. Ms. Taxin stated that the question is can telephone calls count toward the hours as the AETNA employee authorizes for operations, medical care, etc. She stated that her initial response was no, the hours would not count as the mental health therapist is to conduct mental health therapy face to face with clients.

**Mr. Fisher asked if AETNA employees are assessing those they talk with.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin responded that the clients call AETNA for approval for medical services so they are conducting a type of assessments.**

Ms. Taxin stated that the AETNA employees may be a Bachelor degree employee and they are doing initial assessments.

**Mr. Attallah stated that this addresses his question to Ms. Kistler regarding her employment and her supervisor in Colorado as the employee could be a Bachelor level person. He asked why the hours would count if no license is required and if a Bachelor degree person was employed for the position.**

Ms. Taxin stated that there are 2 sides to the issue. She explained that the AETNA employee may talk with a person who says they are having anxiety and the employee gives authorization for treatment. She stated that this is what the mental health therapy employees are requesting the Division to count. Ms. Taxin stated that she asked for the job descriptions and she received the care planner job description but not the care manager job description. Ms. Taxin stated that the care planner job description says the employee collects data, provides outreach programs, administers pre-screening, educates clients on the website resources, does case management, makes referrals, does support development of the care management team and maintains documentation. She stated that the care management employee may have an Associate degree or Bachelor degree in Psychology.

**Mr. Attallah made a motion to deny hours obtained through AETNA based on AETNA not qualifying as a mental health therapy agency and AETNA is not conducting mental health therapy.**

**Ms. Smith seconded the motion.**

**Mr. Fisher, Ms. Smith and Mr. Attallah voted in favor of the motion. Mr. de St. Aubin abstained from voting. The motion died due to the lack of a quorum vote.**

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that Ms. Taxin received only one job description. He stated that he would like to review all the job descriptions as AETNA may say they are providing mental health therapy which would be a different issue. He stated that he is not sure the job descriptions relate to this issue of hours counting toward the required 4000 hours of supervised clinical experience.**

Ms. Taxin responded that the issue is more basic as AETNA is an insurance company and is not a mental health facility as the Law requires. She stated that she could inform AETNA that the licensed CSW's cannot conduct mental health therapy while working there and if they are doing mental health therapy then

AETNA will have to be licensed as a mental health therapy facility.

**Mr. de St. Aubin made a motion that if the extent of AETNA services are as explained in the job description provided and based on the Law requiring the agency to be a mental health therapy agency the hours should not be considered for any of the required 4000 hours to be licensed as a LCSW.**

**Mr. Attallah seconded the motion.**

**The Board vote was unanimous.**

Update on ASWB Conference

Ms. Taxin reported on her attendance at the ASWB Conference. She stated that the conference was interesting and informative. Ms Taxin stated that it is beneficial to hear the issues other States have and how they are dealing with those issues.

**Mr. de St. Aubin stated that he would be interested in reviewing the topics that were discussed regarding supervision.**

Ms. Taxin responded that she brought back a brochure for Board members titled NASW & ASWB Standards for Technology and Social Work Practice.

**Board members thanked Ms. Taxin for attending the conference and providing them with an update.**

Cease & Desist Order for CSW with Administrative Track

Ms. Taxin informed the Board that another person with the MSW Administrative Track was practicing mental health therapy. She stated that this person agreed to sign a Cease and Desist Order and has stated that she will complete the clinical courses in order to practice within the guidelines of the Laws and Rules.

**Board members noted the information.**

Reschedule September 6, 2007 Board Meeting

Ms. Taxin stated that she has a conflict with the September 6, 2007 Board meeting date as she is scheduled to attend a conference that week. She asked the Board to review their September schedule for an alternate date.

**Upon review schedules, Board members requested the meeting be changed to September 13, 2007.**

**Mr. Fisher announced that he should be completed with his training hours and ready to submit his LCSW application by the middle of June 2007. He stated that he will have to resign his Board appointment as the Law requires 2 CSW's to serve on the Board. Mr. Fisher asked Ms. Taxin if he may submit some names of CSW's who would like to serve on the Board.**

Ms. Taxin responded that Mr. Fisher will have to submit a letter of resignation as a Board member to her. She stated that if any Board members know of anyone interested to contact them and have them submit to her a letter of interest with a resume.

**Mr. de St. Aubin asked if Ms. Taxin would like a name of someone from the U of U.**

Ms. Taxin responded that any CSW that is interested may submit their letter and resume.

Ms. Taxin thanked Mr. Fisher for notifying her ahead of time.

Mark de St. Aubin Questions

Mr. de St. Aubin asked Ms. Taxin where she is in the progress of updating the Rules.

**Ms. Taxin responded that several new Laws were passed at the 2007 Legislative session and writing Rules for those new Laws is a priority at this time. As a result, she stated that she has not been able to work on the Social Work revisions. Ms. Taxin stated that she has talked with Kym Myers at Utah NASW regarding some areas where the Law should be changed. She stated that she could put in the Rules the clarification of the Practice Methods course and that could be done quickly with the big changes to be made later, once the Law is updated.**

**Ms. Taxin stated that the Practice Methods course presented by Ms. Moore today is more in depth than the courses offered through the University of**

**Phoenix and offered descriptive language of the curriculum which is important for an SSW to obtain.**

Mr. de St. Aubin stated that he is of the opinion that the education content should be deferred to the CSWE standard. He stated that it is implied that the course work should be social work content.

**Ms. Taxin stated that the University of Phoenix does not have a Social Work program but the courses and the content cover of their Practice Methods courses covers the requirement for the SSW licensure.**

Mr. de St. Aubin again stated that the Board should review the CSWE Social Work curriculum standard.

**Ms. Taxin responded that she has drafted some language for the Rules and could pull out the easy sections for the Board to review without doing the SSW scope of practice at this time. She stated that if there is lengthy discussion and controversy then the updates would again be put on hold.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

ASWB Correspondence

The Board review the following ASWB correspondence:

1. ASWB Newsletter, April 2007. **No actions as Board members receive the newsletter.**
2. ASWB 2007 Election Information. **Ms. Taxin and Ms. Smith distributed the forms for Board members to respond.**

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:**

June 7, 2007



**ADJOURN:**

The time is 2:33 pm and the meeting is adjourned.

*Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.*

August 2, 2007  
Date Approved

(ss) Tammer Attallah  
Chairperson, Utah Social Work Licensing Board

June 4, 2007  
Date Approved

(ss) Noel Taxin  
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &  
Professional Licensing